



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Legislative Affairs

Office of the Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D C 20530

December 17, 2001

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

FROM:

Daniel J. Bryant  
Assistant Attorney General

*Carl Thorsen / DAA6  
for DTB*

SUBJECT:

Weekly Report for December 17 - December 28, 2001

THE WEEK AHEAD

- The Congress is expected to be in recess next week.

THIS WEEK

- **Al Qaeda Threat Information:** On December 18, an FBI representatives will testify at a Senate Foreign Relations International Operations and Terrorism Subcommittee hearing on the global threat posed by Al Qaeda. (Walter)
- **Terrorism Suspect Detention Policy:** On December 19, the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration and Claims will hold a hearing on Terrorism Suspect Detention Policy. Joe Greene, INS Deputy Executive Associate Commissioner for Field Operations, will testify. (D. Burton)
- **Implementing Certain International Terrorism Conventions (H.R. 3275):** This bill, which is scheduled for the suspension calendar on December 18, is required to implement the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings and the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism. (Daley)

LAST WEEK

- **Nominations:** The Senate Judiciary Committee held a hearing on the nomination of David L. Bunning, to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Kentucky, on December 10. On December 11, the Senate confirmed the nomination of John Bates, to be a United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, and confirmed the nominations of Kurt D. Engelhardt, to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Louisiana, and Julie Robinson, to be a United States District Judge for the District of Kansas. We anticipate that the Senate will confirm the remaining three district court nominees on the Senate Executive Calendar before the end of this week. On December 13, the Committee approved the nomination of Callie V. Granade, to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama. The Committee then approved the following judicial nominees en bloc: Marcia S. Krieger, to be a United

States District Judge for the District of Colorado; James C. Mahan, to be a United States District Judge for the District of Nevada; Philip R. Martinez, to be a United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas; and C. Ashley Royal, to be a United States District Judge for the Middle District of Georgia. The Committee approved the following U.S. Attorney nominees: Michael Battle, Western District of New York; Christopher J. Christie, New Jersey; Harry E. Cummins III, Eastern District of Arkansas; and David P. York, Southern District of Alabama and the nomination of Mauricio J. Tamargo, to be Chairman of the Foreign Claims Settlement Commission. Finally, the Committee approved the nomination of Dwight MacKay, to be the United States Marshal for the District of Montana, with the caveat that the nomination would not be moved on the Senate floor until the file had been reviewed. (Scott-Finan)

- **NextWave:** On December 11, Jody Hunt, Counsel to the Deputy Attorney General, testified before the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet at a hearing on the NextWave Wireless Licenses. (Wilson)
- **Magic Lantern:** On December 12, cleared staff from the Senate Judiciary Committee and Senator Cantwell were briefed by representatives from the Computer Crime and Intellectual Property Section of the Criminal Division and from the FBI on this program, which Senator Cantwell asked about during your recent testimony before the Committee. On December 14, House Intelligence Committee staff were also briefed on the project. (Walter)
- **PENTTBOM/Anthrax Investigation:** On December 12, a representative from FBI, joined by DoD and CIA representatives, provided Members and staff of the House Intelligence Committee with their weekly closed status briefing on the investigation. On December 13, a representative from FBI joined CIA representatives in providing Members and staff of the Senate Intelligence Committee with their weekly closed status briefing on the same issue. (Walter)
- **Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002:** The conference report, which passed the House on December 12 and the Senate on December 13, includes language that authorizes your interagency task force to review current penalties for leaks of classified information. The bill awaits signature by the President. (Walter)
- **Voting Reform (H.R. 3295):** The Ney-Hoyer voting reform bill, the Help America Vote Act of 2001, was passed by the House on December 12 by a vote of 362-63. The Department's letter of December 10, stated that the measure does not alter or undermine the requirements of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993. (Scott-Finan)
- **Prosecutorial Deliberations:** On December 13, the House Government Reform Committee held a hearing on the FBI's handling of informants in Boston, with particular reference to the Committee's subpoena for internal Department deliberative documents reflecting prosecutorial decision-making regarding certain Boston crime figures and others. Michael Horowitz, Chief of Staff in the Department's Criminal Division, testified about the President's assertion of Executive Privilege regarding the subpoenaed documents and the Department's strong interests in their confidentiality. [REDACTED]

(F. Burton)